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(54) **Deflection unit in a charged particle beam device**

(57) A charged particle beam column comprises: a particle source (12); an objective lens (20); a pre-lens deflection unit (30) for deflecting a beam of charged particles away from the optical axis (16) on such a path (14b, 14c) that the combined action of the objective lens (20) and the pre-lens deflection unit (30) directs the beam of charged particles towards the optical axis (16) to hit the specimen surface (18) from a first direction;

and an in-lens deflection unit (40) arranged in the vicinity of the objective lens (20) for redirecting the deflected beam of charged particles on such a path (14d) that the combined action of the objective lens (20) and the in-lens deflection unit (40) redirects the beam of charged particles towards the optical axis (16) to hit the specimen surface (18) under said large beam landing angle from a second direction substantially opposite to said first direction.

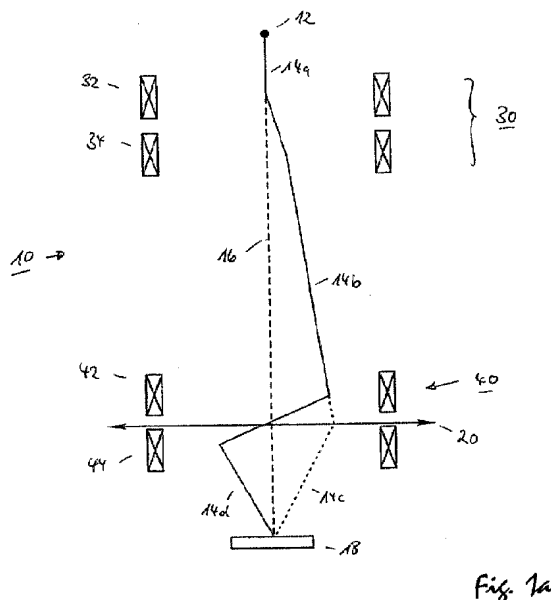


Fig. 1a



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search MUNICH		Date of completion of the search 23 April 2002	Examiner Frisch, K
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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